



G. Trenholm Walker
Thomas P. Gressette, Jr.
Ian W. Freeman
John P. Linton, Jr.
Charles P. Summerall, IV

THOMAS P. GRESSETTE, JR.
Direct: 843.727.2249
Email: Gressette@WGFLAW.com

December 16, 2019

Via Electronic Filing and US Mail

The Honorable Jocelyn Boyd
Chief Clerk/Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210-8411

RE: Application of Daufuskie Island Utility Company, Inc. for Approval of an Increase for Water and Sewer Rates, Terms and Conditions, Docket No. 2014-346-WS

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Via letter dated November 15, 2019, I submitted Daufuskie Island Utility Company, Inc.'s request that a final hearing in the above-referenced matter be scheduled at the Commission's earliest convenience. The letter further explained:

Because there have already been two hearings in this case, the record is fully developed and another hearing for further testimony or evidence is not necessary. Therefore, DIUC requests that the Commission set a limited hearing for oral argument from the parties regarding implementation of the Supreme Court's [2019 remand] decision.

On December 4, 2019, the Commission entered Order 2019-842 re requesting "that ORS provide the Commission with its position on whether further evidentiary proceedings are required." Via letter dated December 6, 2019, Andrew M. Bateman, General Counsel for ORS, filed a letter indicating:

Absent the presentation of additional evidence by DIUC, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") would not present additional evidence. As a result, at the third hearing on DIUC's application, provided DIUC submits no additional evidence, ORS is prepared to rest on the evidence it submitted in the initial two hearings.

On behalf of my client, I thank the Office of the Clerk, the Commission, and ORS for their timely attention to the November 15, 2019, hearing request, as there are several reasons time is of the essence in resolving this matter.

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First, as all parties are aware, this matter has been pending for several years and it will benefit all involved to bring the rate proceeding to a prompt and proper close. Second, it is in the ratepayers' best interest to have a Commission decision in time for DIUC's April 1, 2020, billing. To accomplish that, DIUC requests that the remand hearing be scheduled at the Commission's earliest availability in January 2020.

With the approaching holidays it seems prudent to attempt to determine a hearing date this week when it is easier to reach all those involved. To that end, if a call among counsel to discuss potential dates and availability for a hearing would be helpful, please let me know and I will set up a call.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 843-727-2249 or by email at Gressette@WGFLAW.com.

Sincerely,

/s/

Thomas P. Gressette, Jr.

Joseph Melchers, Esquire (joseph.melchers@psc.sc.gov)
Andrew M. Bateman, Esq. (abateman@regstaff.sc.gov)
Jeff Nelson, Esq. (jnelson@regstaff.sc.gov)
John J. Pringle, Jr., Esq. (jack.pringle@arlaw.com)
John F. Beach, Esq. (john.beach@arlaw.com)
Margaret M. Fox, Esq. (pfox@burr.com)